Claims

What is claimed is:

[c1]   A method of fractional replication in a directory server, comprising:

determining a fractional portion of an entry stored on a primary server using a replication agreement;

replicating the fractional portion from the primary server to a replica server creating a fractional replica; and

connecting a client computer to the fractional replica;

wherein the client computer has knowledge of only the fractional replica.

[c2]   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server.

[c3]   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server.

[c4]   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

updating the fractional portion using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database.

[c5]   The method of claim 1, wherein an entry filtering rule database is stored in the replication agreement.

[c6]   The method of claim 1, wherein the replication agreement comprises a list of replicated attribute types held in an element.

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[c7]   The method of claim 6, wherein the element is empty and all attributes of the entry are to be replicated.

[c8]   The method of claim 6, wherein the list of replicated attribute types comprises an include list.

[c9]   The method of claim 6, wherein the list of replicated attribute types comprises an exclude list.

[c10]   A method of fractional replication in a directory server, comprising:

      determining a fractional portion of an entry stored on a primary server using a replication agreement;

      replicating the fractional portion from the primary server to a replica server creating a fractional replica;

      using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server;

      using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server;

      updating the fractional portion using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database; and

      connecting a client computer to the fractional replica;

      wherein the client computer has knowledge of only the fractional replica.

[c11]   A method of transmitting updates to a fractional portion, comprising:

      retrieving a change record stored in a database;

      making a pass-through of a plurality of change types from the change record stored in the database; and

      performing an update function to the fractional portion based on the change type.

[c12]   The method of claim 10, wherein the change type comprises an add operation.

[c13] The method of claim 10, wherein the change type comprises a delete operation

[c14] The method of claim 10, wherein the change type comprises a modify operation.

[c15] The method of claim 10, wherein the change type comprises a moddn operation.

[c16] A directory server system allowing fractional replication, comprising:

a primary server database comprising a plurality of entries;

an entry filtering rule database to determine a fractional portion of an entry stored on the primary server to be replicated using a replication agreement; and

a replica server that replicates the fractional portion received from the primary server creating a fractional replica;

wherein a client computer is connected to the fractional replica having knowledge of only the fractional replica of the entry.

[c17] The system of claim 16, further comprising:

a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server.

[c18] The system of claim 16, further comprising:

a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server.

[c19] The system of claim 16, further comprising:

an updated fractional portion updated by using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database.

[c20] The system of claim 16, wherein the replication agreement comprises a list of replicated attribute types held in an element.

[c21] The system of claim 20, wherein the element is empty and all attributes of the entry are to be replicated.

[c22] The system of claim 20, wherein the list of replicated attribute types comprises an include list.

[c23] The system of claim 20, wherein the list of replicated attribute types comprises an exclude list.

[c24] A directory server system allowing fractional replication, comprising:

a primary server database comprising a plurality of entries;

an entry filtering rule database to determine a fractional portion of an entry stored on the primary server to be replicated using a replication agreement;

a replica server replicates the fractional portion received from the primary server creating a fractional replica;

a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server;

a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server; and

an updated fractional portion updated by using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database;

wherein a client computer is connected to the fractional replica having knowledge of only the fractional replica of the entry.

[c25] A directory server system allowing fractional replication, comprising:

means for determining a fractional portion of an entry stored on a primary server using a replication agreement;

means for replicating the fractional portion from the primary server to a replica server creating a fractional replica; and

means for connecting a client computer to the fractional replica;

wherein the client computer has knowledge of only the fractional replica.

[c26] The system of claim 25, further comprising:

means for using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server.

[c27] The system of claim 25, further comprising:

means for using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server.

[c28] The system of claim 25, further comprising:

means for updating the fractional portion using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database.

[c29] A directory server system allowing fractional replication, comprising:

means for determining a fractional portion of an entry stored on a primary server using a replication agreement;

means for replicating the fractional portion from the primary server to a replica server creating a fractional replica;

means for connecting a client computer to the fractional replica;

means for using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of entries on the replica server;

means for using a query rule to govern responses to questions in the absence of attributes of the entry on the replica server; and

means for updating the fractional portion using a plurality of change types stored in a change record in a database;

wherein the client computer has knowledge of only the fractional replica.